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Patent  
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**AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification as follows.

Please replace paragraph [47] with the following:

— Figure 3 illustrates the use of multicast delivery with respect to the read-ahead mechanism, according to an embodiment of the present invention. Steps 1a-1c and 2a are performed as in the read-ahead process described in Figure 2. At step 2b, rather than send the URL HTML to only downstream proxy 105 using a TCP connection, upstream proxy 107 sends the URL HTML to both downstream proxy 105 and downstream proxy 305 using multicast. Similarly, the embedded objects sent in step 5 are also sent to both downstream proxy 105 and downstream proxy 305 using multicast. In both cases, downstream proxy 305 stores the received objects in its cache. At step 8, web browser 303 sends a request URL HTML to downstream proxy 305. Since downstream proxy 305 has URL HTML in its cache, it is able to respond with URL HTML (step 9) without forwarding the request to upstream proxy 107. Similarly, when web browser 303 subsequently requests the embedded objects in URL HTML at step 10, downstream proxy 305 is able to respond with the objects (step 11) ~~with~~ without forwarding the request to upstream proxy 107. —